

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 05299 022215Z

66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-10 SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /131 W

----- 018913

R 022105Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2499

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5299

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY: STEERING GROUP MEETING NOV. 2

REF: STATE 216004

SUMMARY. AT MEETING OF NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY STEERING GROUP NOV 2, AMBASSADOR SPIERENBURG (NETHERLANDS) ANNOUNCED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT PURCHASE LANCE AND WISHED TO ENTER INTO BILATERAL TRADEOFF NEGOTIATIONS. FRG APPEARS TO BE MOST LIKELY CANDIDATE FOR SOME SORT OF COMPENSATORY ARRANGEMENT THAT MIGHT ALSO INTEREST THE BELGIANS. REPORT OF AIR FORCES SUB-GROUP WAS APPROVED WITH DELETION OF DATES IN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. AS INSTRUCTED, US (MCAULIFFE) RESERVED ON ENCOURAGING NETHERLANDS TO PROCURE A MODERN SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM. DRAFT COVER REPORT WILL BE REVISED
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 05299 022215Z

AND CONSIDERED AT NEXT MEETING NOV 8. ACTION REQUESTED;
WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS NOV 7. END SUMMARY.

1. AFTER OPENING REMARKS BY STEERING GROUP CHAIRMAN

SPIERENBURG, PECK (UK) ANNOUNCED THAT NAVAL SUB-GROUP CHAIRMAN WILL BE A CAPT HEPWORTH. ASYG HUMPHREYS THEN CHALLENGED PARA 25 OF COVER LETTER AND PARAS 47 AND 48 OF AIR SUB-GROUP'S REPORT, WHEREIN TIME PERIOD 1977 (OR 1978) - 1982 IS MENTIONED. HUMPHREYS SAID THIS REPRESENTS A FIVE YEAR SLIP FROM NATO FORCE GOALS AGREED LAST YEAR. SUB-GROUP CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT DATES WERE INTENDED TO MEAN INTRODUCTION OF AIRCRAFT INTO SQUADRON SERVICE, AND THAT THEY FURTHER ANTICIPATED EXPECTED AVAILABILITY OF COMPANION AIRCRAFT SUCH AS F-15 AND MRCA. SUB-GROUP DECIDED TO DELETE REFERENCE TO DATES.

2. US REP MADE BRIEF STATEMENT CONCURRING WITH PARA 7F OF DRAFT COVER REPORT (THE RECOMMENDED AIR SPECIALIZATION OPTION).

3. ON PARA 6 OF DRAFT COVER REPORT, SPIERENBURG NOTED US AND NETHERLANDS WILLINGNESS FOR AIR FORCES STUDY TO CONTINUE. PECK, SUPPORTED BY MENZIES (CANADA), KRAPF (GERMANY), AND MC CHAIRMAN STEINHOFF, SUGGESTED PLACING FURTHER LAND FORCES STUDY UNDER NORMAL MACHINERY. PECK SUGGESTED THE MC, OTHERS THE DPC. SPIERENBURG ARGUED FOR RETENTION OF PRESENT MACHINERY AND MCAULIFFE SUGGESTED RESTORING PROBLEM TO ENTIRE ALLIANCE POSSIBLE THROUGH OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUPS SO THAT ALL NEED NOT PARTICIPATE. LATER, SPIERENBURG SUGGESTED LETTING EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP HANDLE WITH RESTRICTED MEMBERSHIP TO MAINTAIN FOCUS ON CENTRAL REGION. STEERING GROUP AGREED TO PLACE SPECIALIZATION STUDY UNDER NORMAL NATO MACHINERY AND DECIDE SPECIFIC MODALITIES IN DPC.

3. MCAULIFFE, DRAWING ON REFTTEL, NOTED US RESERVATION, PENDING FURTHER WASHINGTON ANALYSIS, ON PARA 7E OF DRAFT COVER REPORT (REGARDING ENCOURAGING THE NETHERLANDS TO PURCHASE A MODERN SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM). SPIERENBURG THEN STATED FLATLY THAT NETHERLANDS WILL NOT REPEAT NOT PURCHASE LANCE; MOD VREDELING IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE BILATERALLY WITH CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 05299 022215Z

OTHERS ON OPTION 3 OF LAND FORCES SUB-GROUP REPORT (EXCHANGE MISSION/TASK RESPONSIBILITIES SO THAT ANOTHER NATION PROVIDES AN ADDITIONAL LANCE SYSTEM TO BE PLACED IN SUPPORT OF I NETHERLANDS CORPS). SPIERENBURG INDICATED THAT FRG MIGHT PROVIDE THAT SUPPORT.

4. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) RESPONDED TO THIS BY ASKING IF 90 MILLION GUILDER COST OF LANCE WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO SOMETHING ELSE. SPIERENBURG RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY. KRAPF REMARKED THAT MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING; MANNING MUST BE CONSIDERED TOO. DE STAERCKE SUGGESTED THAT VREDELING MIGHT TALK TO GERMAN MOD LEBER DURING NPG MINISTERIAL NEXT WEEK. DEPENDING UPON OUTCOME OF THESE DISCUS-

SIONS, THE BELGIANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE DIFFICULTIES
WITH LANCE PROCUREMENT; AND GOB MIGHT THEN ALSO WANT TO TALK TO
OTHERS BILATERALLY.

5. DRAFT COVER REPORT WILL BE REVISED AND CIRCULATED PRIOR
TO NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING NOV 8.

6. COMMENT: AFTER MEETING WE PROBED COL HOLZFUSS (GERMANY)
AND BG DE JAGER (NETHERLANDS) REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF A
DUTCH-GERMAN TRADEOFF ARRANGEMENT ON LANCE. WE LEARNED THAT
VREDELING AND LEBER ARE OLD FRIENDS AND THAT VREDELING
WISHES TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH LEBER AT NPG MEETING AT THE
HAGUE NEXT WEEK.
POSSIBILITY OF A DUTCH-GERMAN TRADEOFF OBVIOUSLY
BEARS ON ANY CONSIDERATION WASHINGTON MAY BE GIVING TO US-
DUTCH TRADEOFF DISCUSSIONS. END COMMENT.

7. FURTHER COMMENT: DUTCH DCM (BUWALDA) IN POST-MEETING CONVERSATION
WITH MCAULIFFE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT U.S. HAD RESERVED ON PARA 7(E).

HE ASKED WHETHER MISSION HAD ADDITIONAL PRIVATE INFORMATION WHICH IT
MIGHT SHARE WITH SPIERENBURG, AND EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WHEN
MCAULIFFE REPEATED SUBSTANCE PARA 4 REFTEL. END COMMENT

8. WE WILL CABLE REVISED DRAFT COVER REPORT AS SOON AS RECEIVED
AND WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS
NOV 7.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 NATO 05299 022215Z

MCAULIFFE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO05299
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12/31/79
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731165/abqcedcm.tel
Line Count: 143
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 216004
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mcintyresh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <12-Jul-2001 by boyleja, REFER TO DOD>; RELEASED <16-Jul-2001 by mcintyresh>; APPROVED <23-Jul-2001 by mcintyresh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY: STEERING GROUP MEETING NOV. 2
TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BONN
BRUSSELS
HAGUE
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG

OTTAWA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005